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Israel - Arab States: Israeli attacks against military installations in northwest Jordan on Friday will compound King Husayn's difficulties in reining in the fedayeen.

The Israeli military command publicly admitted the strikes, claiming that they were in retaliation for Jordanian Army assistance to the fedayeen during earlier attacks against Israeli border settlements.

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Allegations that SAM missiles have been moved closer to the Suez Canal in violation of the cease-fire have produced a strong emotional response in Israel, put Mrs. Meir's government on the defensive domestically, and changed the atmosphere from one of cautious optimism regarding peace prospects to one of nervousness and pessimism. The press is unanimous in holding the US responsible for restoring the situation. Foreign Minister Eban in a radio interview on 13 August suggested that if a roll-back of the SAMs cannot be accomplished, Israel will "demand its right to defensive equipment." Other officials in the Foreign Ministry and in the Knesset have suggested that Israel may delay Tel Aviv's participation in the Jarring talks.

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Communist China - USSR: The Chinese apparently have finally agreed to accept a Soviet ambassador.

The Chinese chargé in Moscow told foreign diplomats this week that formal agreement has been granted to the Soviet nominee, Vasily Tolstikov. Tolstikov is a long-time party official with no diplomatic experience, who currently is the boss of the important Leningrad party apparatus. Thus far there has been no firm indication of when he will leave for Peking or when the Chinese will send an ambassador of their own to Moscow. In a published interview last week, however, Premier Kosygin said that a Soviet ambassador would be leaving "shortly" for Peking.

Peking's acceptance of Tolstikov brings to an end China's four-month delay in responding to strong Soviet efforts to accredit an ambassador to Peking. Chinese officials in the past had voiced fear that Moscow intended to use the appointment to downgrade the diplomatic importance of the crucial Peking border talks to the ambassadorial level. The arrival Saturday of Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Ilichev as the new head of the Soviet delegation to the talks suggests that Moscow is reassuring the Chinese it will continue the border discussions at the current level. In any case, Peking has almost certainly judged that further delay over the ambassadorial issue would be counterproductive and would open China to charges that it is the "intransigent" party in the dispute.

The acceptance of Tolstikov is clearly a hollow gesture by China and almost certainly reflects no basic change in the status of either the deadlocked border talks or the frozen relations between the two states. [redacted]

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Uruguay: The fate of the Tupamaros' two hostages remains uncertain.

The government's efforts to secure the release of the US agricultural adviser and the Brazilian diplomat held by the terrorists thus far have not succeeded.

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[redacted] An aura of confusion surrounds whatever negotiations may be taking place between the Pacheco administration and the abductors. One channel being used may be captured Tupamano leader Raul Sendic, who was escorted to a jail for a meeting with other members of the organization.

A serious problem for the Uruguayans has been to determine the authenticity of purported Tupamano communique's. One message found on 16 August in Porto Alegre, Brazil, indicated that the Brazilian diplomat would be killed unless his government demanded that the Uruguayan administration released 183 prisoners within 72 hours.

According to press reports, the Uruguayan Government is seeking a special meeting of the Organization of American States to endorse its refusal to exchange the prisoners for the two hostages. The Uruguayan stand has already received unofficial backing from some Latin American government officials. The Guatemalan congress adopted a resolution lauding the Uruguayans for "refusing to exchange diplomats for common criminals," while Argentine President Levingston said that "It is impossible to negotiate with criminals who practice blackmail as a form of pressure."

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USSR-Peru: Moscow has canceled the trouble-plagued airlift to Peru following a three-week pause in flights.

A Soviet Embassy official in Lima has announced that materials that were to be flown to Lima now will be delivered by one or more ships. Although no reason was given for the cancellation, the Soviets were having both bureaucratic and technical difficulties in making the planned 65 relief flights to Peru. Since the airlift began on 9 July, only 21 of the flights were completed. The most dramatic setback was the loss of an AN-22 over the Labrador Sea on 18 July.

The cancellation probably will be the final blow to whatever political capital Moscow had hoped to achieve from the aid effort. The many delays, which have received wide and pointed coverage in the Lima press, already have largely negated Moscow's hope of overshadowing its initial failure to respond to the 31 May earthquake.

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Pakistan: President Yahya's announcement on 15 August that elections for the constitutional convention will be postponed from 5 October to 7 December is unlikely to bring significant adverse reaction. Except for the front runners in both East and West Pakistan and a few others, all political parties had urged an election delay in the hopes that extra campaign time would improve their chances at the polls. Yahya, however, apparently is sincere in his belief that serious flooding in East Pakistan has made it impossible to adhere to the original schedule. He has rescheduled elections at the earliest practical time; Ramadan, the Muslim month of fasting, occurs in November this year and effectively rules out an election date then.

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Guyana-USSR: Prime Minister Burnham apparently has decided to accept the recommendation made by last week's conference of diplomatic heads of mission and accede to the Soviet initiative to establish diplomatic relations. The move could come before Burnham's departure on 2 September for the nonaligned summit conference in Lusaka. His decision probably was an attempt to display his independent policy in international relations and enhance his standing at the conference. The agreement will bring to twelve the total number of countries in Latin America having diplomatic relations with the USSR, with Paraguay as the only exception on the South American continent.

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